

CORRIGENDUM

AN $O(n^{\lg k} \cdot 2^{n/2})$ TIME AND $O(k \cdot 2^{n/k})$ SPACE ALGORITHM
FOR CERTAIN NP-COMPLETE PROBLEMS

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The proof of Theorem 1 in [1] is not correct (thanks are due to A. Ferreira for pointing out this fact), so please replace Theorem 1 and its proof by the following. The rest of [1] remains unchanged.

Theorem 1. Let $X = \{x_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, M\}$, $Y = \{y_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$ and let $S = X + Y = \{x_i + y_j \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, M, j = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$. Then it is possible to generate successively the elements of S in sorted order in time $O(MN \log_2(\min(M, N)))$ using only $O(\min(M, N))$ additional space.

Proof. We will consider a heap H keeping pairs $(x_i + y_j, j)$ stored according to the first item. Without loss of generality we will assume $M \leq N$.

Algorithm. Step 1: sort X and Y ;

Step 2: create heap H from $(x_i + y_1, 1)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, M$;

Step 3: for $k = 1$ to MN do

$(z, j) = \text{extract_min}(H)$

$\{z \text{ is the } k\text{th element of } X + Y\}$

$\text{insert}(z - y_j + y_{j+1}, j + 1)$ into H

od.

Complexity (we will not account for the space necessary to store X and Y): See Table 1. \square

Table 1

Step	Time	Space
1	$O(M \log_2 M + N \log_2 N)$	no additional space
2	$O(M)$	$O(M)$
3	$O(MN \log M)$	$O(M)$

Our algorithm is in fact a variant of Selectsort and its correctness is based on the fact that H contains for each “row” (of $X + Y$) its current minimum (with respect to remaining, i.e., “until this time not used”, elements). The heap data structure allows us to find quickly a global minimum from local minima, and to update respectively a new local minimum. Successive generation of global minima gives us all the elements of $X + Y$ in nondecreasing order.

Reference

- [1] J. Vyskoč, An $O(n^{\lg k} \cdot 2^{n/2})$ time and $O(k \cdot 2^{n/k})$ space algorithm for certain NP-complete problems, *Theoret. Comput. Sci.* **51** (1987) 221–227.